

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for managing a food and beverage supply chain utilizing a network,  
2 comprising:  
3 a) receiving data from a plurality of food and beverage outlets of a food and  
4 beverage supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of food and  
5 beverages by the food and beverage outlets;  
6 b) generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering food and  
7 beverages from a food and beverage distributor of the food and beverage supply  
8 chain;  
9 c) transmitting the data to the food and beverage distributor of the food and beverage  
10 supply chain utilizing the network;  
11 d) transmitting the data to a food and beverage supplier of the food and beverage  
12 supply chain utilizing the network; and  
13 e) forecasting activity in the food and beverage supply chain utilizing the data.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of  
2 food and beverage distributors and food and beverage suppliers.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the data is made accessible to the food and  
2 beverage outlets, the food and beverage distributor, the food and beverage  
3 supplier via a network-based interface.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the data is accessible to the food and beverage  
2 distributor and the food and beverage supplier only after verification of an identity  
3 thereof.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the food and beverage outlets, the food and  
2 beverage distributor, and the food and beverage supplier each forecast utilizing  
3 the data.
- 1 7. A system for managing a food and beverage supply chain utilizing a network,  
2 comprising:
  - 3 a) logic for receiving data from a plurality of food and beverage outlets of a food  
4 and beverage supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of food  
5 and beverage by the food and beverage outlets;
  - 6 b) logic for generating an electronic order form based on <sup>the</sup> the data for ordering food  
7 and beverage from a food and beverage distributor of the food and beverage  
8 supply chain;
  - 9 c) logic for transmitting the data to the food and beverage distributor of the food and  
10 beverage supply chain utilizing the network;
  - 11 d) logic for transmitting the data to a food and beverage supplier of the food and  
12 beverage supply chain utilizing the network; and
  - 13 e) logic for forecasting activity in the food and beverage supply chain utilizing the  
14 data.
- 1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of  
2 food and beverage distributors and food and beverage suppliers.
- 1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the data is made accessible to the food and  
2 beverage outlets, the food and beverage distributor, the food and beverage  
3 supplier via a network-based interface.
- 1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the data is accessible to the food and beverage  
2 distributor and the food and beverage supplier only after verification of an identity  
3 thereof.
- 1 11. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.

- 1 12. The system of claim 7, wherein the food and beverage outlets, the food and  
2 beverage distributor, and the food and beverage supplier each forecast utilizing  
3 the data.
- 1 13. A computer program product for managing a food and beverage supply chain  
2 utilizing a network, comprising:
  - 3 a) computer code for receiving data from a plurality of food and beverage outlets of  
4 a food and beverage supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale  
5 of food and beverage by the food and beverage outlets;
  - 6 b) computer code for generating an electronic order form based on the data for  
7 ordering food and beverage from a food and beverage distributor of the food and  
8 beverage supply chain;
  - 9 c) computer code for transmitting the data to the food and beverage distributor of the  
10 food and beverage supply chain utilizing the network;
  - 11 d) computer code for transmitting the data to a food and beverage supplier of the  
12 food and beverage supply chain utilizing the network; and
  - 13 e) computer code for forecasting activity in the food and beverage supply chain  
14 utilizing the data.
- 1 14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the data is parsed to match  
2 each of a plurality of food and beverage distributors and food and beverage  
3 suppliers.
- 1 15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the data is made accessible  
2 to the food and beverage outlets, the food and beverage distributor, the food and  
3 beverage supplier via a network-based interface.
- 1 16. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein the data is accessible to the  
2 food and beverage distributor and the food and beverage supplier only after  
3 verification of an identity thereof.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the network includes the  
2 Internet.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the food and beverage  
2 outlets, the food and beverage distributor, and the food and beverage supplier  
3 each forecast utilizing the data.